

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 256

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque on her selection as Teacher of the Year of Clinch School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tunnell-Dubuque was recently chosen as the Teacher of the Year for Clinch School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tunnell-Dubuque earned an associate's degree in elementary education from Walters State Community College in 1992, a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1995, and a master's degree from the University of Tennessee in 1996; and

WHEREAS, her teaching career began in Hamblen County in 1995, when she served in Special Education as a kindergarten through grade five Resource and Comprehensive Development Classroom (CDC) teacher at West Elementary before serving as a grades nine through twelve Special Education CDC teacher at Clinton High School in Anderson County from 1996-98; and

WHEREAS, from 1998-2000, Ms. Tunnell-Dubuque served as a Special Education CDC teacher for grades three through five at Inskip Elementary in Knox County; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque began her tenure with Hawkins County Schools as a Special Education Resource teacher at Hawkins Elementary School from 2000-02

before transferring to Rogersville Middle School, for which she served as a Special Education Resource teacher from 2002-04; and

WHEREAS, she began teaching at Clinch School in 2004, which she currently serves with acumen and alacrity as a Special Education teacher for kindergarten through twelfth grade; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tunnell-Dubuque is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she has graciously volunteered her time to numerous scholastic efforts, including serving as an eleven-year member of the Hawkins County Education Association, as a junior varsity basketball coach for the 2008-09 school year, as a member of the SWPB Team from 2008-11, as a member of the School Data Team from 2007-11, and as a member of the Parent Involvement Team from 2009-11; and

WHEREAS, very active in her community, Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque has served as a 4-H volunteer since 1986, assisting with a variety of activities. She judges public speaking and bread baking contests, she has attended week-long Junior Camps as a chaperone during summers, she assists with the yearly fundraisers, serving barbecue sandwiches at the Annual Holston Electric Meeting, and she helps with the monthly 4-H class meetings; and

WHEREAS, she also serves as League Treasurer for the Rogersville Youth Bowling League; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tunnell-Dubuque truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mary Jane Tunnell-Dubuque on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at Clinch School, commend her exceptional service to the

children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.